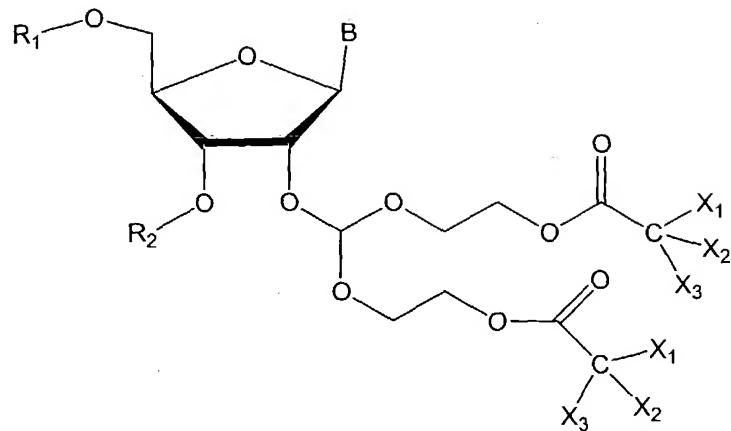


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



wherein R₁ and R₂ are the same or different and are protecting groups or phosphorus moieties, B is selected from a purine, pyrimidine or modification thereof and X₁, X₂, and X₃ are each independently an atom or a ligand.